



CENTRAL MASSACHUSETTS METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

The minutes of the Central Massachusetts Metropolitan Planning Organization (CMMPO) meeting held **Wednesday, May 17th, 2023**. This meeting was held virtually using Zoom.

- **CMMPO Members Present:**

1. Steve Woelfel – MassDOT Office of Transportation Planning, designee to MassDOT Secretary Gina Fiandaca
2. Ann Sullivan – MassDOT Highway Division District #3, designee to MassDOT Highway Division Administrator Jonathon Gulliver
3. Bob Hassinger – designee to CMRPC Commission Chair
4. Jesse Limanek – Sutton, Southeast Subregion Representative
5. Dennis Lamarche – Oxford, Southwest Subregion Representative
6. Rich Eichacker – Warren, West Subregion Alternate
7. Stephanie Mulroy – Holden, North Subregion Representative

- **CMMPO Ex-Officio Members Present:**

1. Chris Klem, MassDOT Office of Transportation Planning
2. Derek Krevat, MassDOT Office of Transportation Planning

- **Guests:**

1. Nick Burnham, WRTA
2. Sarah Bradbury, MassDOT District #3
3. Daryl Amaral, MassDOT District #2
4. Michelle Ho, MassDOT
5. Michelle Scott, MassDOT

- **CMRPC Staff Present:**

1. Sujatha Krishnan, Deputy Director – Transportation
2. Kevin Krasnecky, Project Manager – Transportation
3. Zack Blais, Associate Planner – Transportation
4. Rich Rydant, Project Manager – Transportation
5. Yahaira Graxirena, Project Manager - Transportation
6. Connie Mellis, Project Manager – Transportation
7. Matthew Deiulis, Administrative Assistant

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Agenda Item #1 – Introductions

CMMPO Chair Steve Woelfel opened the meeting at 4:00 PM. A roll call of CMMPO members was announced, followed by the rest of attendees.

Agenda Item #2 – Approval of April 19, 2023, Meeting Minutes

Minutes from the April 19, 2023, meeting of the CMMPO were considered for approval. Bob Hassinger motioned to accept the minutes and was seconded by Dennis Lamarche. A roll call vote was announced, and members voted to approve the minutes.

Steve Woelfel – Yes

Dennis Lamarche – Yes

Ann Sullivan – Yes

Rich Eichacker – Yes

Bob Hassinger – Yes

Stephanie Mulroy – (did not vote)

Jesse Limanek – Yes

Agenda Item #3 – Opportunity for Public Comment

There were no comments from the public.

Agenda Item #4 – WRTA Public Transportation Agency Safety Plan (PTASP) Update

- **Potential Action:** Concurrence with WRTA Safety Targets

Nick Burnham from WRTA staff presented this item. Mr. Burnham announced that there is a newer FTA regulation for transit agencies to implement a comprehensive and collaborative approach to managing safety. The WRTA PTASP details safety processes and procedures for WRTA, and utilizes existing safety practices, including industry best practices. The first WRTA PTASP was endorsed by the WRTA Advisory Board in 2020.

Mr. Burnham explained that the framework of the PTASP includes the development of safety performance targets; safety management policy, which includes identifying roles and responsibilities; safety risk management process, which includes hazard identification and risk assessment and mitigation; safety performance monitoring and measurement; and safety promotion and communication.

Mr. Burnham continued to explain that for the 2022 PTASP Update, there are additional PTSAP requirements included in the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL). In addition, there is the implementation of a Safety Committee. The WRTA Employee Safety Committee was required to be established by July 31, 2022; it must have equal representation between frontline employees and management; and it is responsible for carrying out the PTASP, relevant updates, and the approval of the plan. The WRTA Employee Safety Committee approved the updated 2022 PTASP in December 2022.

Mr. Burnham then showed separate tables for the initial Safety Performance Measures (2020) and the updated Safety Performance Measures (2022). For the initial Safety Performance Measures, the metrics were based on the previous five calendar years of data (2015-2019), and for the updated Safety Performance Measures, the metrics are based on the five calendar years of data between 2018-2022. Safety targets are measured for both Fixed Route and Demand Response transit services. The measures are based on fatalities (total), fatalities (rate), injuries (total), injuries (rate), safety events (total), safety

events (rate), and system reliability (miles between failures). After showing the two tables, Mr. Burnham showed a final table that combined the two tables to show the increases and decreases between the initial and updated performance targets.

For the 2022 PTASP Update, the WRTA Advisory Board endorsed it at their April 2023 meeting. The WRTA certified that the PTASP complied with the FTA and the updated performance measures were sent to the CMMPO to integrate into regional safety planning.

There were no questions following the presentation.

All members were in consensus to concur with the updated WRTA Safety Targets that were presented.

Agenda Item #5 – FFY 2023 to 2027 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

- **Potential Action:** Approval of Proposed Amendment #6 to the FFY 2023 to 2027 TIP Highway Project Listing

Kevin Krasnecky presented this item. CMRPC staff were requesting members to approve the Proposed Amendment #6 to the FFY 2023 to 2027 TIP Highway Project Listing.

Amendment #6 includes the cost increase of three projects in FFY 2023:

- Cost increase of \$2,507,579 for **Project #609219 – Holden – Pavement Rehabilitation on Main Street, Shrewsbury Street, and Doyle Road, from State Police Barracks to Brattle Street**. STBG funds will be reduced by \$2,656,678 for an updated total of \$2,885,443 and Statewide STBG funds will be increased by \$5,164,257 from \$1,000,000 to a total of \$6,164,257. The new Total Project Cost is \$13,049,700.
- Cost increase of \$3,278,93 for **Project #608873 – Spencer – Roadway Rehabilitation of Meadow Road**. CMAQ funds will increase by \$163,185, STBG funds will increase by \$1,326,103, and TAP funding will be added in the amount of \$1,790,665. The updated Total Project Cost is \$12,821,789.
- Cost increase of \$1,034,249 for **Project #610826 – Sturbridge – Bridge Replacement, S-30-019, Champeaux Road over Long Pond**. The Statewide STBG-BR-OFF funding will go from \$2,143,668 to a new Total Project Cost of \$3,177,917.

There were no questions regarding these updates.

Bob Hassinger made a motion and was seconded by Dennis Lamarche to approve Proposed Amendment #6 to the FFY 2023 to 2027 TIP Highway Project Listing. Members present voted to approve Proposed Amendment #6 to the FFY 2023 to 2027 TIP Highway Project Listing.

Steve Woelfel – Yes
Ann Sullivan – Yes
Bob Hassinger – Yes
Jesse Limanek – Yes

Dennis Lamarche – Yes
Rich Eichacker – Yes
Stephanie Mulroy – (did not vote)

Agenda Item #6 – FFY 2024 to 2028 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

- **Potential Action:** Approval of FFY 2024 to 2028 TIP

Mr. Krasnecky presented this item. Staff requested members to approve the FFY 2024 to 2028 TIP. Mr. Krasnecky noted that both the CMMPO Advisory and the CMRPC Transportation Planning Committee recommended endorsement to the FFY 2024 to 2028 TIP. In addition, a public meeting was also hosted, but no comments were received. Staff did receive comments from 495 MetroWest Partnership, in which they voiced support for the projects within their region and the programming of MicroProjects. MassDOT OTP also provided comments and some minor changes were made to the TIP document. Additionally, there were a few updates made to the highway list in the eSTIP by MassDOT during the 21-day public comments and review period (changes in red font below):

FFY 2024

- Project #612098: UPTON-**GRAFTON** – Resurfacing and Related Work on Route 140
- Project #608640: SUTTON-**GRAFTON** – Depot Street Bridge Reconstruction/Rehabilitation. Cost increased to **\$12,380,610**.
- Project #612087: AUBURN-**OXFORD** – Resurfacing and Related Work on I-290/I-395.
- Project #608814: SPENCER – Route 9 Resurfacing and Related Work. **Project moved to section 2B**. Project cost decreased to **\$9,350,178**.

FFY 2025

- Project #612608 – WORCESTER – Route 20 Flood Relief. **Project added as a new project**. Total Project Cost is \$3,016,000.
- Project #608491 – MENDON – Route 16 Resurfacing. **Project was moved from FFY 2024 to FFY 2025**. Cost increased to **\$25,726,097**.

FFY 2026

- Project #610825 – SHREWSBURY – Route 20 Rehabilitation and Box Widening. **Project was moved from FFY 2028 to FFY 2026**.

Those were the only changes for the highway listing and there were no changes made to the TIP transit listing during the 21-day public review and comment period.

There were no comments or questions.

Ann Sullivan made a motion and was seconded by Jesse Limanek to endorse the FFY 2024 to FFY 2028 TIP. Members present voted to endorse the FFY 2024 to FFY 2028 TIP.

Steve Woelfel – Yes
Ann Sullivan – Yes
Bob Hassinger – Yes
Jesse Limanek – Yes

Dennis Lamarche – Yes
Rich Eichacker – Yes
Stephanie Mulroy – (did not vote)

Agenda Item #7 – FFY 2024 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)

- **Potential Action:** Release of Draft FFY 2024 UPWP for 21-Day Public Review and Comment Period

Sujatha Krishnan presented this item. Staff are requesting members to release the Draft FFY 2024 UPWP for a 21-day public review and commend period.

Ms. Krishnan reminded the members that the budget for the major tasks was reviewed at the previous CMMPO meeting and announced that the Draft FFY 2024 UPWP document is now available on the CMRPC website. Ms. Krishnan also announced that there will be a virtual Public Meeting on June 6, 2023, to discuss the Draft FFY 2024 UPWP.

There were no comments or questions.

Dennis Lamarche made a motion and was seconded by Bob Hassinger to release the Draft FFY 2024 UPWP for a 21-day public review and comment period. Members present voted to release the Draft FFY 2024 UPWP for a 21-day public review and comment period.

Steve Woelfel – Yes

Dennis Lamarche – Yes

Ann Sullivan – Yes

Rich Eichacker – Yes

Bob Hassinger – Yes

Stephanie Mulroy – (did not vote)

Jesse Limanek – Yes

Agenda Item #8 – Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) Scenario Planning

- Needs Prioritization Process Presentation

Yahaira Graxirena presented this item. When coming up with priorities for the LRTP, *2050 Connections*, there are many areas to consider. They include data management systems, public outreach, environmental consultation, performance-based planning, financial constraint, land use and economic development, new policies and emphasis areas, and equity analysis and regional environmental justice “plus” (REJ+).

Priorities from these areas were also combined with priorities from the previous LRTP (*Mobility 2040*) to show progress that has been completed since that plan and then were then filtered into bins of what is completed, in-progress, being monitored, and new. These were organized by the plan’s Five Programmatic Areas.

Ms. Graxirena shared several slides showing some examples of priority projects and studies that are either completed, in-progress, being monitored, or new. These included TIP projects, bicycle pathway projects, culvert assessments, Safe Routes to School projects, and EV charging infrastructure studies.

Lastly, Ms. Graxirena shared that staff will be hosting a Public Hybrid Meeting on May 31, from 5:00PM to 6:30PM at the Paul Revere Room in Worcester (1 Mercantile Street). This meeting will review all material received from the public, data, the plan's priorities, and more dialogue with those who attend to discuss their priorities. This meeting will officially close the public outreach process of *2050 Connections*.

There were no comments or questions following the presentation.

Agenda Item #9 – Staff Updates

Ms. Krishnan announced that CMRPC transportation staff have moved to the MassDOT District 3 (Central Massachusetts Transportation Center) building on Plantation Street in Worcester.

Agenda Item #8 – New Business

There was no new business.

Agenda Item #10 – Next Meetings

- CMMPO Advisory Committee meeting (virtual) – May 24, 2023, at 3:00pm
- CMMPO meeting (virtual) – June 21, 2023, at 4:00pm

Agenda Item #10 – Adjournment

Bob Hassinger made a motion to adjourn and was seconded by Jesse Limanek. The meeting concluded at 4:45 PM.

Meeting Minutes prepared by: Zachary Blais, Transportation Associate Planner